



'LINKAGES FOR PEACE' SEMINAR

“Connectivity-Road to Peace”

TASAM



STRATEGIC VISION PAPER

'LINKAGES FOR PEACE' SEMINAR

"Connectivity-Road to Peace"

(05 May 2018, Istanbul)

Considering the tumultuous state of the world order, peace and stability are prerequisites to achieve the goals of progress and prosperity. Regional connectivity requires initiatives by states, by economic actors, and by socio-cultural agents to enhance the level of connectivity in the region and engender sustainable and beneficial outcomes for peace, interconnectivity and conflict resolution.

Keeping in view the global challenges that the world is going through, there is an increasing need to find common social and economic interests and develop stronger cross-country relations. In line with the global trend of stronger regional relations; policy-makers, academics and experts from the countries of Pakistan, Turkey and Kosovo are invited to exchange ideas and propose steps to explore further avenues of cooperation, coordination and collaboration.

Kosovo is part of CEFTA and likely to join EU. Turkey and Pakistan were part of RCD, which has now enlarged into ECO that includes Central Asian countries. China is developing linkages across the Eurasian belt through its OBOR/BRI initiative while Russia is linking Eurasia through EAEU. Several countries are also developing freer economic relations bilaterally.

For instance, the FTA has already been signed between China and Pakistan, and is in the pipeline between Turkey and Pakistan, and Turkey and Kosovo. In addition to economic and strategic ties, these multilateral engagements provide us with an opportunity to promote cultural exchanges through tourism, media, and sports. Such linkages can be conduits for peace and harmony in the region.



There is a need to explore the spectrum of political, security, economic, development, humanitarian, and other challenges at different levels – international, regional and national with a view to set the scene for the discussions on how the international community can work together to develop new approaches in international peace and connectivity. It will explore the recent progress achieved in enhancing cooperation and linkages between countries and the increasing importance of strengthening ties with regional allies.

Regional peace and stability is beset with various challenges, ranging from violence and extremism to the proclivity to use force to achieve policy objectives. In times when geo-economics is overtaking geopolitics, there are great dividends in robustly pushing forward peace initiatives. Both the prospects and impediments to peace processes need to be discussed.

To commemorate the National day of Kosovo, **'Linkages for Peace' Seminar** will be held in cooperation with Lahore Centre for Peace Research (LCPR), South Asia Strategic Research Center (GASAM), Turkish Asian Center for Strategic Studies (TASAM), Pakistan Graduates and Members Assoc (PAMDER), Balkan Muslims Cooperation and Solidarity Assoc (BESADER) and Pak-Turk Friendship Assoc (PTF). While emphasizing on how regional and cross-border linkages can be fostered that contribute to and support the promotion of peace through bilateral trade, tourism, and economic development, The seminar will conclude with key ideas and suggestions that could support efforts aimed at increasing regional co-operation and integration and furthering different kinds of initiatives aimed at enhancing the level of connectivity in the region.

Main Theme

Connectivity-Road to Peace

Sub Themes

International Development, INGOs, and UN System

Regional Trade Blocks, EU, CEFTA

Culture and Media Connectivity



Security and Strategic Aspects of Connectivity Initiatives

The Role of Diplomacy and Connectivity in the 21st Century